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On arriving at Buenos Aires, January 1, another round of formal dinners, luncheons, speeches, and conferences began, President Irogoyen living up to the highest standards of formal courtesy, although known not to be overfriendly to the United States.

THE UNITED STATES AND SAN DOMINGO

By direction of the President, Rear Admiral Thomas Snowden, U. S. N., military governor of San Domingo, has issued the following proclamation:

Whereas the friendly purposes of the United States in the employment, pursuant to rights derived from the Treaty of 1907, of its military forces within the Dominican Republic, for the restoration of public order and the protection of life and property, have been substantially achieved; and

Whereas it has always been the desire and intention of the Government of the United States to withdraw its aid as soon as it could do so consistently with the said purpose, and as soon as the improved conditions in Santo Domingo, to which the United States has sought to contribute, should give promise of permanence:

Now, therefore, I, Thomas Snowden, rear admiral, United States Navy, military governor of the Dominican Republic, acting under the authority and by direction of the Government of the United States, declare and announce to all concerned that the Government of the United States believes the time has arrived when it may, with a due sense of its responsibility to the people of the Dominican Republic, inaugurate the simple processes of its rapid withdrawal from the responsibilities assumed in connection with Dominican affairs.

Announcement is therefore made that a commission of representative Dominican citizens will be appointed, the personnel of which will shortly be announced, to which it is my purpose to attach a technical adviser. This commission will be intrusted with the formulation of amendments to the constitution and a general revision of the laws of the republic, including the drafting of a new election law. Such amendments to the constitution and such laws, or such revision of existing laws as may be recommended by the commission, upon approval by the military government in occupation, will be submitted to a constitutional convention and to the national congress of the Dominican Republic respectively.

The reason for this action by the United States, given by the State Department, is that "complete tranquillity has existed for some time throughout the republic, and the people for the first time in many years have been enabled to devote themselves to peaceful occupations without fear of disturbance." American occupation began in November, 1916, "with no immediate or ulterior object of destroying the sovereignty of Santo Domingo." Instead it has hoped to restore its credit, bring order out of the chaos of its finances, and protect it from foreign creditors. The American military government, according to Washington officials, has so ordered the insular finances that all arrears of indebtedness due now have been paid, including payment of interest on the bonded debt. Expenses of government, with prompt payment of salaries, has gone hand in hand with settlement of old accounts, and the insular treasury now has \$3,200,000 in its coffers. Taxes have been collected without fear or favor. Fiscal departments have been reorganized and modernized and the burdens of revenue production have been put upon "interests" best able to carry them.

Presumably this action of the United States has been hastened somewhat by publicity recently given to reports

from the island indicating that the Dominicans were restive in their pecuniary prosperity and critical of the prolongation of political control from without.

The terms of the proclamation and the method of withdrawal there outlined are such as to make certain that the transfer will be gradual, not abrupt, and that the United States, as in Cuba, will keep a string attached to any final plan of insular home rule, at least on fiscal matters.

AMERICAN TRADES UNIONISM AND SOVIET RUSSIA

American trades unionism aligns itself with British trades unionism and with leaders of the British Independent Labor Party in repudiation of the program of the Third International. The text of the reply of the American Federation of Labor may be found in the October issue of *The Federationist*. We quote from it the more salient parts:

"The Amsterdam executive (referring to the International Federation of Trade Unions) has issued throughout the world and sent to the American Federation of Labor for circulation in this country a declaration calling for international revolutionary measures by labor in aid of the Soviets in their war against Poland.

"The chairman of the British Labor Party, claiming to speak for the British trade union labor movement, has sent a cablegram along similar lines and apparently calling for similar action. The contents of these messages are thoroughly revolutionary and obviously animated with the desire to use extreme measures for strengthening the hold of Soviet power in Russia and enabling it to extend its influence and to dominate neighboring countries.

Federation Not Revolutionary

"The American Federation of Labor is not a revolutionary body and has never had any affiliation with any revolutionary body which would require it to give serious consideration to revolutionary proposals of any kind. While recognizing the need of revolution against autocratic governments, organized labor in this country regards the American Government as being essentially democratic.

"The American Federation of Labor has always declared for and stood by the demand against large standing armies, for the limitation of munitions of war, and for a reduction in naval establishments. But if the production of war materials were to cease entirely all small nations would be utterly helpless and at the mercy of their larger neighbors. Smaller countries like Belgium would be utterly powerless, while Poland and Georgia would fall into the hands of Soviet Russia. There cannot be the slightest doubt that the defeat of Poland by the Soviets was the concise and immediate object, both of the British Council of Action and the International Federation of Trade Unions.

"There can be little doubt that the whole movement was largely devised at Moscow and originated at the conference of the Third or Communist Internationale a few weeks previously. Lenin had called for precisely this action on the part of the labor organizations in western Europe. The aggressive and violent character of the Bolshevik régime is now due primarily, not to the certainty of their hold upon the Russian Government or upon the victories of the "red" armies, but upon the co-operation of European labor.

For American Principles

"The American Federation of Labor is utterly and wholly opposed to anything that approaches any form of assistance to Soviets.

"There have been indications that the Italian uprising and the radical stand taken by Smillie in England were planned to take place at the same time as the expected fall of Warsaw, and to mark the beginning of a general Bolshevik or a near-Bolshevik upheaval throughout Europe.